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# Nursery and Fruit Farm.

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G. A. IVINS.

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In tiny seed slumbers, what wondrous life!
In nature's arcana, what secrets involved!
What hidden arena, with marvel and strife
Where each fertile germ to plant life is evolved.

Men roam the green earth, and with wondering view Mute mysteries to rise each step of their way! Flowers unnumbered of all fragrance and hue Bloom, from rose-tinted spring till autumn is gray.

Our brain we emblaze for a torch that reveals The source wherein life's great wonder began; But what forces mighty all nature conceals! What unfathomed depths to all wisdom of man!

#### OUR CATALOGUE.

We want all who are interested in growing fruits to have a copy of our Catalogue, in which we write from a practical standpoint. We have many years of experience, and have spent much time and money in search of varieties suitable for a cold climate.

#### ORIGINATION.

We are the originators and introducers of many exceptionally fine varieties of Apples and Strawberries, of which due mention will be made.

#### REFERENCES.

Our Responsibility.—We refer by permission to State and National Banks of this city.

Remittances should be made by Bank Draft, Postal or Express Order.

Six of any variety at dozen rates, fifty at one hundred rates, and one hundred at one thousand rates.

#### CERTIFICATE OF NURSERY INSPECTION.

This is to certify that the growing stock and premises of Bon Y Fedw Nursery, G. A. Ivins, proprietor, situated in Iowa Falls, County of Hardin, State of Iowa, have been inspected according to the provisions of Chapter 53 of the Twenty-seventh General Assembly, and that no indications have been found of the presence of San Jose scale or other dangerous insects or disease.

H. E. SUMMERS,

State Entomologist, Ames, Iowa.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

How to Order.—When ordering, be sure to write your name and address plainly. Give Post-Office, County and State, every time you write us. Do not fail to inform us how stock is to be shipped, whether by freight or express. This will prevent many mistakes.

#### GUARANTEE.

We use the greatest possible care to have our stock true to name, in every case; and should any prove defective, we stand ready to replace them free of charge, or refund the purchase price. But we do not hold ourselves liable for climatic conditions or other causes, or where trees are not planted properly or well cared for.

#### SHIPPING FACILITIES.

Our shipping facilities afford purchasers the choice of four different railroads, running in different directions from our city; thus avoiding transfers and enabling us to make quick deliveries. All stock sent by express goes at reduced rates.

#### QUALITY OF STOCK.

We do not wish to appear self-conceited, but in justice to ourselves, and for the benefit of the people who have never dealt with us, we wish to say there is no stock superior to that grown and sold by us, and it gives us much satisfaction to know that we do understand all relations of plant life, and through this knowledge to grow the best of stock.

## To Our Patrons and Friends

In issuing this descriptive catalogue we have listed the hardiest and best varieties of fruit trees now grown and recommended for general planting. We are confident that when this catalogue is read and considered, it will give aid and information as to the best methods that can be given in propagating fruit trees.

In planting any of the tree fruits, hardiness is of the most importance. Without absolute hardiness in root and stem, failure and disappointment are the certain results. For more than thirty years we have seen the climatic changes of this country and have investigated the cause of so many trees dying. We find the principal cause to be in the planting of half-hardy varieties which are damaged in their branches by our cold winters. Also, too many of our trees are grafted upon tender roots that winter kill, as in the winter of 1899, when thousands of trees were root killed. We have unceasingly worked to procure none but the hardiest varieties, and have grafted them upon hardy roots in order to obviate root killing, and we are glad to say our work is mainly proving a success. We are living in a progressive age, and we must, ourselves, solve the problem of successful fruit growing in the north; and, when we accomplish that, there will not be any trouble in growing fruit here any more than in any other country. Thus far in our work of originating new varieties, we have been fairly successful with the Apple, Plum and Strawberry, and some of them give promise of being valuable; and, while physical and mental strength permit, we shall continue in this line of work. Many varieties of fruit trees, when originated and acclimated in the north, as a rule, are more likely to be of value in their original home than those which are propagated in a different climate. We grow every variety of fruit we offer for sale, and our greatest care will be to grow the hardiest grade of trees that can be grown by skill and the best methods of propagation. To develop a perfect tree requires experience and much hard work. We often read articles relative to the average life of trees, and it is quite a common expression for men to say that trees are short-lived and die at middle age. This statement is not overdrawn; for the cherry and plum are not very long-lived trees in the west; still, by deep planting and mulching in the winter, as a safeguard against root-killing, their life will be much longer. The apple tree has a much longer life, and some varieties live to be very old. In my opinion, the general system of propagation of apple trees has much influence upon their lives. The laws of creation gave them a whole root, and it is natural to suppose that it was for the full benefit of the tree, but when it is deprived of a part of its roots by piece root grafting, the life of the tree must be shortened. We know that piece root grafting is very popular, and some able men advocate this method of propagation, but this does not by any means signify that it is the best, neither is it consistent with the laws of plant life. The highest authorities we have in the United States emphasize the fact that grafting upon a large root makes the best and most vigorous tree.

My experience in growing trees is that they cannot be grown too well. I always procure the best seed that can be had to grow my seedlings, then graft upon whole roots, subsoiling my ground from 16 to 18 inches deep, giving the nursery the best possible cultivation; and after all this extra work, I have more trees to consign to the brush pile than I desire. The problem of growing hardy trees and hardy roots is the most important to be considered by every planter desirous of growing an orchard. If a failure is made in this respect, there is no remedy for it after trees have been planted, and sooner or later a loss must be expected.

It seems reasonable that every man who intends to buy nursery stock should inform himself concerning hardiness of trees and the best varieties to plant, and then he would make no mistake, providing he bought his trees direct from some responsible nursery. We make a specialty of growing many varieties of apples upon crab stock. From our own experience we are satisfied that it makes the best tree for the north that can be grown. It adds hardiness to the tree, and it emits roots from the scion, and you have then a tree upon its own roots, which is proof against root-killing in extremely cold winters. After thirty years of planting, with almost absolute failure in growing winter varieties in the northwest, it seems that people would investigate this subject more than they do. Thousands of trees have been planted which have proven failures, and thousands of dollars have been paid to traveling, deceptive tree peddlers for trees which were not worth the time it took to plant them.

The experimental work upon our grounds is more necessary and important than all other work that can be done. In this department all new varieties of fruits which possess merits of hardiness, quality and productiveness, are planted, and a thorough test given them before they are offered for sale. New varieties can not be thoroughly tested in one year, but many seasons of fruiting are required to show their good or weak points. To give our patrons some idea of this work, we can say that we are growing more than one hundred varieties of apples, and double that amount of small fruits, none of which has ever been offered for sale, but as fast as they give promise of value we will propagate them for the trade.



## APPLES.

The Apple is king of fruits. Its great commercial value throughout the world demonstrates this fact. Its great value in the home the most of the year is not fully appreciated by the masses. No other fruit in its natural condition can ever take its place. The cost of a few trees is small when compared with the cost of many luxuries that are bought for the farm. Its culture is not a complex problem, but is as simple as the planting and culture of a field of corn.

Viewing the subject of planting, from our experience, we would select high, dry, or tiled ground. Deep plowing is always the best. The rows should be about 26 feet apart east and west, and 18 feet apart north and south. Dig a large hole 20 or 24 inches deep. Cut the bruised ends of the roots off smoothly. Lean the tree a little towards the 2 o'clock sun. Fill in among the fibrous roots with top soil, and after the planting is complete, press the dirt down around the stem with the feet. If the tree has a heavy top, cut out some of the branches which grow too near each other, and cut back the remaining ones half their length. Cultivate them several times, or spade around them. This conserves moisture and stimulates growth.

#### SUMMER APPLES.

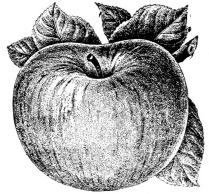
Duchess of Oldenburg-Well known in the West; needs no description. It has been

a souvenir for many homes, but other varieties now share its laurels.

Varonesh Flat—Is of the same family as the Duchess, but a week or so later. In hardiness and production it equals the Duchess and is very similar in quality.

Skrute—This fine summer apple ripens a little later than the Duchess. In quality is a mild sub-acid, which is a flavor preferred by many people. It is hardy, productive, medium in size, and comes into bearing quite early.

Ivins' Seedling, No. 1—Is one of our first originations. It is a large, striped apple; good quality for dessert. Is



Duchess of Oldenburg.

mildly acid, enough to suit the taste of most every one. It is hardy and productive. Is ripe enough for use the last of August. Will keep until the first of October. 25c. each; \$2.75 per 12; \$15.00 per 100.

#### FALL APPLES.

**Gypsy Girl**—Is the famous train boy apple in East Europe. In quality it is fine for dessert or for culinary purposes. Size medium; color attractive. Tree very hardy, and is a very desirable tree to plant.

Longfield—Is now planted generally everywhere. Its great productiveness and good quality have given it a wide reputation. Size medium; color clear yellow with a lively blush of red. Keeps until November.

Wolfe River—Is the largest apple grown. Color very beautiful. Quality fair to good. Not quite as hardy as the Wealthy. For this latitude we regard it safe for planting. Is productive and a good seller.

Wealthy—No variety introduced in the Northwest has been praised so unceasingly as this apple. Its high quality and productiveness are fully established, and it needs no recommendation.

Dieckmann—This is another seedling of Hardin County. Is a fine September apple of large size; very productive and bears early. It is the most vigorous tree we have ever seen. Is a seedling of the Duchess and possesses the same hardiness. There can be no question as to the value of it for September. All should plant it. 25c. each; \$2.75 per 12; \$15.00 per 100.



Wolfe River.

#### WINTER VARIETIES.

- Salome—This is of medium size; color yellow shaded with red; quality good. Is a long keeper.
- Croft—Is a fine winter variety. The tree seems as hardy as the Wealthy. It has stood our winters for nearly 30 years without a blemish. Is productive, and is fine to use for either cooking or dessert. Good from November until Spring. Color yellow and red; size medium.
- Black Annette—Has been grown in Central Iowa for many years, giving great satisfaction. It has firuited in this country from twelve to fifteen years, and has stood our cold winters without damage. We feel safe in recommending it. Size below medium; color dark red. Very productive. Bears early and is a long keeper. Fine for dessert or cooking.
- N. W. Greening—Is the longest-keeping apple upon our list, having kept in an ordinary cellar one year. It is a large yellow apple of good quality in its season. Tree fairly productive, and is now regarded as being hardy for the North.
- Seek-no-Further—We have a few trees of this famous apple, double worked upon Crab'stock. We know of trees of this variety over thirty years old. The tree is hardier than many are aware of. Plant a few trees and give it a trial. The above varieties are worth 25c. each; \$2.75 per dozen; \$15.00 per 100.

#### NEW AND SPECIAL VARIETIES OF APPLE TREES.

NEARLY ALL OF THEM

Double Worked upon Crab Stock, and are all Fine Trees.

- Arctic—This is one of the apples we have been testing, and thus far it has proven satisfactory. Size, medium to large; color, deep red, and quality extra fine. Tree is very vigorous, and the apples keep until late Spring. In introducing this fine apple, we are safe in saying there is no better apple grown in America.
- Hinkley—This apple was originated near Lone Tree, Iowa, and the original tree lived nearly sixty years. The tree is hardy and vigorous; size, medium to large; color, yellow and red. It is good to eat the first of November, and keeps until

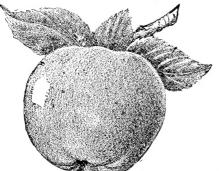
the middle of June. It has the best of foliage. It is good in quality, and we regard it as a very promising apple for the North. We have only a limited number of this variety for sale.

Kievskoe—This is one of the Russian importations. Is a large sub-acid apple of good quality. There is no doubt of its hardiness. We have only a small number to offer for sale this year, but we are propagating it, and we regard it as promising for the North.

Adamson—This variety was originated within five miles of Iowa Falls. It has borne many heavy crops of fruit. Size large; color yellow; quality fine, and keeps until the middle of February. We regard it as being hardy, and a fine acquisition to our winter varieties. Tree has never blighted, and is a good grower. The tree mentioned above is now thirty years old and in good condition.

Ivins' Pippin—This is a large, reddish apple of good quality. Tree hardy and vigorous. We believe this apple will be valuable in the future and will make its own reputation. Will keep until February. It is a good cooker and a fine eating apple. We can offer only a few of this variety for sale this season.

Rankin-Is a late fall or winter apple. The original tree has this year borne its



ninth successive crop. If there is another variety in the United States possessing such productiveness I would like to see it. Size large; color yellow. Has fine cooking qualities, and is a good eating apple. Tree hardy and vigorous. Has never blighted. Is a very early bearer, and has borne fruit upon our grounds the second year after planting. Its value as a commercial apple for planting cannot be over-estimated.

Lieveland Raspherry—All things considered, this is unquestionably the finest

summer apple that has ever been offered for sale in Iowa. Is hardy as the Duchess and nearly the same size. It belongs to the Gypsy Girl family, and is the most beautiful in its shades and colors of any we have ever seen. It is a grand apple, and no one should be without it. We have but a few in stock, and the first who order will be the lucky ones. The above new varieties are worth 40c. each or \$4.00 per 12.

In the way of a novelty we have the Hybrid Wild Red Crab. It is a cross of the wild crab upon one of our winter apples. Color, red. It has but little astringent properties of the wild crab, making it a very good cooker and a long keeper. We have it now in perfect condition, over a year old. As an ornamental tree no other can take its place. This surely is a valuable tree for the home. The increasing demand for this tree is large; many buy it for the sweet fragrance of its bloom. 40c. each.

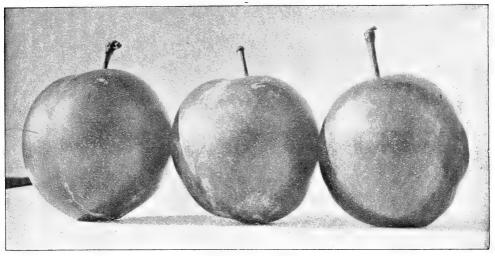
#### CRAB APPLES.

Whitney, No. 20—Is well known by all.

Briar Sweet—Is a large, fine Crab.

Florence—Is medium in size, but fine in quality.

25c. each; \$2.75 per dozen.



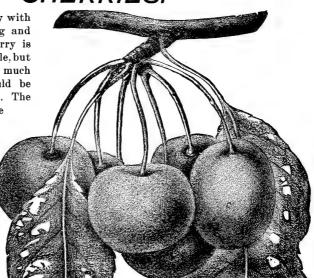
## PLUMS.

Hardy types of fruit, and we grow many varieties of them; but, for general planting, we recommend the Stoddard, Wyant, Wolfe, Hawkeye and Miner. These are the largest-sized plums, fine in quality, and are very productive. We find that the medium-sized plums will not sell readily, no matter how good their quality. The different varieties should be planted together in the same row; by this means they are better fertilized, and will be more productive. Plums do best when planted on rather low ground, and I have never yet had the ground too rich. The richer the ground the larger and more productive the plums seem to be. 35c. each; \$3.50 per dozen.

## CHERRIES.

This fruit is a luxury with many people. Planting and cultivating of the Cherry is the same as for the Apple, but the trees can be planted much nearer. Cherries should be planted on high ground. The past three seasons have fully proven that the Cherry is not a water plant, for in three excessively wet years many of them of different ages have died. Mulching the trees in the winter is of the most importance.

Early Richmond—This is the cherry for all. It is hardy

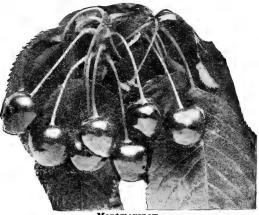


Early Richmond.

and the best early cherry grown in the West, and needs no further description.

Montmorency—This is regarded by many as being the best medium late cherry. Upon our grounds it has given entire satisfaction, and we recommend planting it.

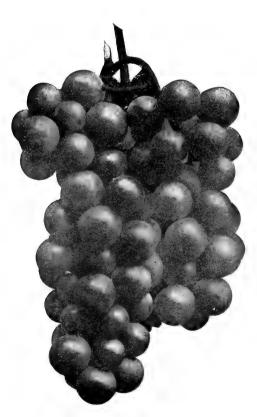
Wragg—This variety is very similar to the English Morello. It is one of the latest in ripening, and is very productive. In quality it is quite tart, but, when fully



Montmorency.

ripened, it is much improved. Its annual yield makes it a profitable cherry to grow. The above varieties, 40c. each; \$4.00 per dozen.

## GRAPES.



The culture of this fruit is quite simple, and no part of fruitgrowing is more interesting. Our experience in the vineyard covers many years. We prefer planting two-year-old vines. The rows should be not less than eight feet apart, and the vines seven or eight feet apart in the rows. Grapes should be planted rather deep, and to have them make vigorous growth, and to bring them into bearing early, the hoe and cultivator should be used often during the season. When large enough for fruiting, we believe the wire trellis is the best support for them. Pruning, laying them down and covering them with earth or mulch, has never been neglected by us. When the buds begin to swell, uncover and tie to trellis. Cultivating grapes is as necessary as cultivating a corn-field, to get good results.

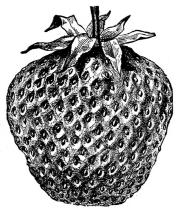
Black Varieties—Concord, Worden, Moore's Early and Campbell's Early. 2-year-old vines, 15c. each; \$1.50 per dozen.

Red Varieties—Delaware and Brighton—2-year-old, 20c. each; \$1.75 per dozen. Green Mountain—2-year-old, 25c. each; \$2.00 per dozen.

## STRAWBERRIES.

It has long been conceded that no berry takes the place of the Strawberry. Just think for a moment of the amount that is consumed yearly. There are no statistics giving an estimate, but the number of cases sold in the United States during the

season would be astonishing to us. Only within the last twenty-five years has this fruit become a commercial product. Prior to that time there were no crates or boxes for shipping, and what were sold were for the local trade. There is no variety of fruit that has made such an advancement. Many new originations are added to the strawberry yearly, and many of them in size and quality are simply marvelous. At one time in the history of strawberries there were ten pistillate varieties to one staminate. Now that is changed, and there are fully as many staminates as pistillates. No one needs to plant a pistillate variety now, for there are staminates that are just as productive, and as fine in quality. The strawberry has no astringent properties, thus making it the most healthful berry that can be eaten.



Beder Wood.

The strawberry has been one of our hobbies for the last twenty years. We have originated many hundred of them, and out of that number a few are proving very



Haverland.

promising, and in size and productiveness we have never seen their equal. Its culture cannot be neglected too long, if you want large, fine berries. The better the culture the nicer the berries will be. Eternal vigilance should be the order of the day in the strawberry field. For field planting, the rows should be 4 feet wide, and the plants from 15 inches to 2 feet apart in the rows. For a family bed the rows need not be so far apart, and often it is better to keep the runners cut off and grow in hills. Before listing our varieties we want to say that we have no marvelous descriptions or wonderful tales to tell of the size and wonderful productiveness of each variety; nor do we list high-priced novelties that often are not worth the time it takes to plant them; but from the varieties we offer for sale, we grow as large berries as any in America, and our plants are not excelled by any.

Perfect Blooming Sorts—Beder Wood, Clyde, Parker Earle and Senator Dunlap. Price, per dozen, 20c.; per 100, 75c.; per 1000, \$3.50.

Imperfect Blooming Sorts—Crescent, Warfield, Bubach and Haverland. Price, per dozen, 20c.; per 100, 75c.; per 1000, \$3.50.

#### CURRANTS AND GOOSEBERRIES.



The culture of these two varieties is the same. It is better to plant these fruits in rows, so that they can be cultivated. The rows should be at least 7 feet wide, and about 5 feet apart in the rows. Cultivating them is as necessary as any other plant, and, if neglected, no one should expect



them to produce large fruit or be productive When cultivating cannot be done, the next best is mulching, and this should be done every year to prevent weeds.

RED CURRANTS—North Star, Pomona, Willard, Cherry and Red Cross. 2-year-old, 15c. each; \$1.50 per doz.

White Grape—15c. each; \$1.50 per doz. Black Champion—20c. each; \$2.00 per doz.

600SEBERRIES—Downing, Pearl and Columbus. These are all large size, and are the best. 20c. each; \$2.00 per doz.



In the field of berries this fruit stands next to the strawberry, while some prefer it; but its sale will not diminish, regardless of the different tastes of the people. It is easily grown. Plant in rows 10 feet apart, and not less than 8 feet in the row. Cultivating them is necessary every year. They can be mulched, but if grown in sodded ground, do not expect large berries.



#### BEST VARIETIES.

Black—Older, Kansas and Cumberland. One-year-old tips, 20c. per doz.; \$1.50 per hundred. Two-year-old bushes, 35c. per doz.; \$2.60 per hundred.

Red—Columbian—large purple berry. One-year-old tips, 30c. per doz.; \$2.00 per hundred. Two-year-old, 40c. per doz.; \$4.00 per hundred.

### ORNAMENTAL FLOWERING SHRUBS.

No home can afford to be without a few of them. Nature has provided these trees and flowers to beautify the home, and it becomes ideal when surrounded with bloom from spring until fall.

	EACH
Flowering May Day	40c.
Cut-Leaf Birch	75c.
Japan Snowball	25c.
Cut-Leaf Mountain Ash	40c.
Tree Hydrangea	40c.





## ROSES.



We grow a fine collection of all the best Hybrids, Tea and Climbing Roses. We have selected such varieties as the Marshall P. Wilder, Alfred Colomb, Gen. Jacqueminot, Madam Plantier, Margaret Dickson, Prince Camille De Rohan, Soleil d'Or, Champion of the World, Hermosa, American Beauty, Mad. Charles Wood and White Boguerre. These are all two-year-old bushes, worth 30c. each.

#### CLIMBING ROSES.

Crimson Rambler—Medium size, 30c.; large size, 40c. each.

Dorothy Perkins—Medium size3	30c.	each.
White Rambler—Medium size	30c.	"
Mary Washington—Medium size	Юc.	"

#### RHUBARB AND ASPARAGUS.

Asparagus—Conover's Colossal and Columbian, two years old, \$1.00 per hundred. Rhubarb (Linnaeus)—10c. each.



#### CORN AND POTATOES.

In connection with our nursery and fruit business, we make a specialty of Seed Corn and Seed Potatoes. The seeds are all grown upon our grounds, and the greatest care is taken to keep the corn perfectly pure. The Potatoes are grown from the

most perfect tubers, and selected when dug, and every bushel sold will be true to name. We intend to grow all the best varieties that are proving best upon our grounds. In the potato department we are no novice, but have experimented with them for years, and are now growing some eight or ten varieties which we originated and are testing them. At this time there are no fixed prices for either corn or potatoes, but all who wish to buy will be furnished with our lowest prices later if they will write us. Our thoroughbred White Dent is the best type of white corn grown in the West. It will ripen anywhere in Northern Iowa, and this is what the people want. The ears are medium to large, and the kernels are exceptionally long, while the cob is very small for a large ear. The ears are filled out full to the end of the cob. This corn will weigh heavier than any white corn that I have ever seen, and no mistake will be made in planting it. Our large Yellow



Dent is an extra type, though it is not as early as the White, still it ripens here; I would not advise planting it north of this place. It is a large yielder of solid corn wherever it can be grown; there is no Yellow Dent that will surpass it. We grow an extra grade of the yellow eight-row corn—what has been known as Yankee corn. This has been graded up to a high standard; the ears are large and it is a heavy yielder and extra early. For early feeding every farmer should plant several acres of it. Its quality for family use cannot be excelled, and, when tested, no other meal will be used.